**M-Learning**

**or**

**Mobile Phones and Mobile Learning. Chapter 16**

Mobile learning is all about devices that can be transported to any location without worrying about your geographical location (Smith 2008). Learning no longer just takes place in the classroom. A smart phone user can access information whenever and wherever they want.

Mobile devices such as Smart Phones, I Pads, and laptops allow users to access information, interact with all individuals, and create and share materials worldwide.

Old Phones were simply that, they could take incoming calls and you could make outgoing calls. Texting came later and that was just the beginning. In the late 1990s we broke into the internet phones and androids that would allow us to enter the information age on the go. Now, some cell phones are more powerful than my dated laptop and some desktops around. Many of us now have the platforms to send and receive information instantly and without interruption of service depending on your plan and carrier.

Why would teachers use them within education? The presence of these devices are now in the hands of many students and teachers hands. In 2009, around 75% of people had a smartphone or access to one (Lenhart, Ling, Campbell, Purcell, 2009). Three years later, the percentages of smart phones must be considerably higher. Using the technology we have access to is what it is all about. Students and teachers can almost do anything they want with regards to education with just a smart phone. For example, full Flash supported video, Microsoft office for a phone, access to school learning systems, and all educational websites just to name a few.

Ignacio Estrada stated some very strong and useful words when he said, “If children don’t learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn.” I see all of my students in my school carrying cell phones and this will probably never change. I believe we should embrace this and use it as a learning and teaching tool in our schools.

-Ben Randall-